Dear Paul (HR), CONFIDENTIAL 9/4/72

Earlier today I wrote two letters to Lesar. I made a special trip into town to mail them so he can have the one of the Ray case tomorrow, with luck. However, I don't feel I can let it rest there as I also don't feel this is a matter for any redistribution. You can discount what I will say or nor and you not only can but I know you will do or do not as you see fit.

This would be less rude to you if you had any involvement in the Ray case, hadn't been involved in your thesis (which might have prompted me to carbon you some), and were it not that what I anticipated led me to believe there might be further disunity, which I am not anxious to promote. To make it comprehensible to you and to give you a measure of some of the things involved, I'll have to give you a bit of background which inevitably will be a confession of what events may show to be poor judgement(s) on my part.

First let me say I didn't read those copies of your things when I was skimming the file to which I referred earlier. In time I will and whatever should be secure, if anything, will be. It may be innocent. There were copies of letters to Howard also. With those it is not impossible that they were part of my archives files, where we worked together. Didn't read.

After the ministrial, it seemed to me that Ray's greatest need was for an honest lawyer more than for a genius; for a man who would do the necessary work rather than one capable of brilliant concepts; and for a man who did not have to worry about income. This seemed to make Bud a natural. I delayed getting in touch with Jerry until I considered the situation right, that the time for theplay had come. I'd figured out how earlier and it was correct. Once I established a relationship with Jerry I approached Bud and asked if he'd take the case under these stipulations: I be the investigator on the case (remember, my book was done and I was not seeking literary materials); he never see Ray without me present; and there be no expectation of fee or recovery from literary rights. He agreed, saying it was impossible. I did the impossible without ever meeting or hearing from James, through Jerry. Bud immediately forgot about the agreement we had and pissed away a fortune on trivialities really unrelated to the defense. He latched onto Flammonde, I'm certain, without proof, to get him to write a thief like he did about Garrison about Bud and they both played a game, that Falmmonde was an investigator. Bud took him to England. They returned empty-handed. Meanwhile, the investigation needed in Memphis was never made.I accused Bud of bad faith, to his faith and in front of Jim and Bob; and he said Flammonde's publisher paid his expenses. He was touting Flammonde as the great investigator (on a show run by an old friend of mine) when the question of Flammonde's book came up and lil there was none and none in prospect-above all, no paying publisher. He did go to see Ray without me(never has with me) and wasted most of the time and effort. Finally, when it became clear he did need me, which I knew, one of the reasons for some of the stipulations, he did call on me. Incredible as it may seem, this cinluded the legal doctrine and thinking beginning with the first papers he filed (where he departed from my recommendations the judge sent him back to provide that). When his own "investigations" turned up nothing and he might need my knowledge in court, he took me to that first hearing, which enabled me to do much of the overdue Memphis investigation. It was, let me say, the easiest ever and quite productive. But at the same time he yearns for fame he can't get in his own right. It is not that I go around boasting these things. I have yet to make any public use of the fact that I am Ray's investigator. It is enough that he knows, and it galls him, so he tries to do something without me, in ways to freeze me out. I wish this were something I could bring myself to do, for there is nothing but trouble and uncompensatable work that, if it succeeds, will benefit him, not me. So, they get things and don't let me have copies, things like that.

Finally, long too late, he decided it is time to prepare the habeas corpus petition for federal court. He's known since 2/71 that it was inevitable. So, will I go take affidavits in support of parts of it from witnesses (family). I do, my own way, which means much more productively than had been considered possible, and with people so partipris, in a means that gives them internal confirmation and at the same time dig up what supports them. It is hard, tiring and much work. So, they switch plans without asking or consulting, I come back with all this fine material on tape and in the head and Jim, who is supposed to do/prof and dub the tapes of the interviews is too busy. On what? Preparing the legal work of the petition. So, I'm on hooks for a couple of months expecting "im to get done his legal research and get started. But it later turns out that he has not been doing the legal work at all but is drafting the body of the petition itself. It is done and it is frightfully inadequate. So, I go over

it and prepare a critique and sections on what was omitted that should be in, the end product being a longer work than his raft. This has now happened three times! Why in the hell they had to lie about what was being done and by whom, why that two-month period was largely wasted for me in terms of my own productivity on other work, why they persist in stupid work methods that waste their time, why they keep kidding themselves into believing they know what they are doing, I just don't know. But from fact to law, they don't know it. The law, at least, they can research from standard and available sources. But not the fact and not the necessary thinking. Obviously, we should have sat down and planned it all first. Kids would know that if they know enough to be high-school debaters. But not these CTIA geniuses.

Each time I see something I haven't seen I find unfound values. Each time changes are made without talking to me first, they have to be changed again. The incompetence is incredible and when it is imposition and costs also money that merely increases my debt, it becomes intolerable. But on competence, I'm telling you these dudes couldn't find sex in a whorehouse. It is really that bad. All of them. Jim is fine, but his experience is limited. You have a measure or two of your own. They don't even think. It is I, now they, who organized the sharing on the 1970 declassification. They couldn't even think of that. And what have you gotten of any consequence from them-ever? What they blew because Bud can't be trusted I don't have to remind you of again. He has this strange yearning for fame and actually has come to believe that his money entitles it to him, that it requires no knowledge but his wild, Garrisonian dreams (Ferrie and Shaw replaced by Lawrence and Braden and the Mafia and Hunt, etc) are fact in his mind now. So, he never does and never has done any real work. He really knows remarkable little about the material. Smith has put in much time. What's to show for it?

This latest is just too much. They now have a new bottleneck. It had to be because when they failed to do the obvious a year and a half ago I asked that it be done. Can there be a better reason for not doing it? Either, that it had to be or that it was my idea. So, now, in great haste and under the gun, they are too late back at that point and we can't really complete the rest until we see the results. When refusal is in some cases better than getting what we ask, can you see the importance of at least asking? In not one case did I not think of it and ask it, so obvious is all of it. It doesn't take genius. It takes only a little common sense. Not even legal knowlddge. It is really this bad and this is the frightening fact.

I did not exaggerate that Stanton file. What it really requires, if the client's interest we best to be served, is reorganizing everything that has been done. I'll not propose that, knowing the opposition it would meet. But orientation should be changed. And this is a fortunate accident where the needs of the client coincide with what is best for bringing truth about assassinations to light.

Other relevant things, like Bud telling me after he had stolen all he thought he could and had these really great expectations of Cyril and his man Bob, that I should work by myself can best be understood if one sees what I've had to do on the Ray case, all of which should have been done long ago and much of what I've done should have been done by lawyers. So, if this is not the whole story. I hope it is enough. They simply can't be trusted with anything or to do anything. I had started a separation a long time ago. There are perijheral things of which we could work together, like The Watergate Caper, but I stay away from Bud and Bob. On all but the Ray case, where my knowledge can't be replaced, all I can say is I wish I had all my stuff back, for there will be no more. You do to suit yourself. I tell you that with the record I've seen, the best you can hope for is a waste of time. Maybe you have time to throw away. I don't. And if Smith should blunder into anything and then understand it, the parlay will do others good only after Bud has milked it. Some of the worst stuff in Computers under Bud's name he did. I learned this in his defending himself against your attitude as he reads it, not your accusations. And if the destination is such a rag, why do any work?

As you know, I keep files. If you think I've exaggerated, they are always open. It is worse than I can make credible. Unless you want to draw on Jim's research on FBI and his knowledge of the law, I really think all contact is wasteful. He will for quit some time be busy on these papers. They actually thought they'd have them done and filed more than a month ago and most are undrafted. There are a couple of months of hard work ahead if the job is to be done. I don't expect this dedication. Bud has finally broken his overflowing heart and has been working on the law stuff, what they lied to me about in May. He really hasn't done any work on this, either. Not only the JFK case. And all I can say of his knowledge of the JFK case is that it exceeds Jerry's. I can hardly say less. This is not good-guy/bad-guy stuff but reality. I tell you in the event you elect ~~him~~ to live with it. Best,